CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of managing a package through shipping channels, comprising the steps of:

attaching a smart sensor to the package; and

wirelessly communicating between the smart sensor and one or more of the shipping channels to identify a location code associated with the package.

2. A method of claim 1, wherein the step of attaching comprises attaching a shipping label, including the sensor, to the package.

3. A method of claim 1, wherein the step of attaching comprises attaching a smart sensor having one or more environmental detectors for detecting a disposition of the package.

4. A method of claim 3, further comprising detecting one or more of impact, temperature, shock, inversion associated with the package.

5. A method of claim 1, further comprising imparting the location code within the smart sensor.

6. A method of claim 5, wherein the steps of imparting comprises utilizing a label dispenser, powering the smart sensor upon dispensing from the dispenser, and imparting at least one of date and time to the smart sensor.

7. A method of claim 5, wherein the step of imparting comprises imparting one of zip code, area code or location to the smart sensor.

8. A method of claim 1, further comprising identifying the package among a plurality of packages when the location code indicates that the package is at an inappropriate one of the channels.

9. A method of claim 1, wherein the channels comprise one or more of a building, truck, plane and boat.

10. A method for establishing product integrity after shipment from one location to another location, comprising the step of:

attaching one or more smart sensors to the product,

monitoring environmental conditions of the product via the sensors and during shipment, wirelessly communicating the conditions from the sensors to a receiver at the second location, and

communicating the conditions to a third location.

11. A method of claim 10, wherein the step of communicating the conditions to the first location comprises communicating the conditions through the Internet.

12. A method of claim 10, further comprising interrogating, with the receiver, the sensors at the second location, and before the step of wirelessly communicating.

13. A method of claim 10, wherein the step of monitoring environmental conditions comprises detecting acceleration at at least one of the sensors.

14. A method of claim 10, the step of attaching comprising attaching an accelerometer to the product, and further comprising detecting free fall to determine a drop distance of the product.

15. A method of claim 10, the step of monitoring environmental conditions comprising monitoring temperature relative to preset temperature guidelines of the product.